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NOTE VERBALE DATED 8 FEBRUARY 1993 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The Secretary-General of the United Nations presents his compliments to the President of the Security Council and, in accordance with paragraph 4 of Security Council resolution 781 (1992), has the honour to bring to his attention further information received by UNPROFOR regarding apparent violations of the ban on military flights in the airspace of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Between 4 February and 7 February 1993, there appear to have been 13 flights of fixed or rotary wing aircraft in the airspace of Bosnia and Herzegovina other than those exempted in accordance with operative paragraph 1 of resolution 781 (1992) or approved by UNPROFOR in accordance with operative paragraph 3 of that resolution. In addition, there were five more flights on 2 February. Details as to the time and the itinerary of these flights are attached as annexes I and II to this note verbale.

All confirmed violations were immediately protested by UNPROFOR to the party concerned.

Annex I

Information on flights in the airspace of Bosnia and Herzegovina not authorized by the United Nations Protection Force

(4-7 February 1993)

SRL	Date	Start	End	Remarks	Heading, speed, altitude
412	4 February	0815	0821	AWACS reported an aircraft, probably a helicopter, 5 nautical miles east of Banja Luka. It was tracked for 6 minutes heading south-east and faded from AWACS radar 15 nautical miles south-east of Banja Luka. United Nations military observers report that this flight did not originate from either of the Banja Luka airfields.	South-east 125 kts Low
413	4 February	1518	n/a	UNMOs in Sector North reported a Gazelle helicopter which flew overhead their position close to the town of Bos Novi, and then flew over the town and continued to the south-east, into the "No Fly Zone". The helicopter was painted green with red crosses on the sides.	South-east Slow 300-500 ft
414	4 February	1041	n/a	UNMOs at Banja Luka Zaluzani reported a Gazelle helicopter which departed from the airfield and did not return. They were told that the aircraft was to fly to Petrovac for a casualty evacuation flight. This was authorized by the UNMOs and the aircraft was inspected before take-off and found to be unarmed. The flight did not return and no explanation has been given for its deviation from plan. It is, therefore, in violation of the "No Fly Zone".	South Slow Low
415	5 February	0540	0543	AWACS detected a track 10 nautical miles north-west of Prijador, heading south. This aircraft was tracked for 3 minutes at a slow speed and faded from radar coverage 13 nautical miles south-west of Prijador. The flight was probably a helicopter.	South Slow Low

SRL	Date	Start	End	Remarks	Heading, speed, altitude
416	5 February	0620	0626	AWACS detected a track 38 nautical miles east of Banja Luka in the vicinity of Kotorsko. The track was observed for 6 minutes orbiting over the same location 2 nautical miles east of the town of Kotorsko. The flight was probably a helicopter.	Orbiting Slow Low
417	5 February	0941	n/a	UNMOs at Banja Luka Zaluzani airfield reported the landing of an H-42 Gazelle helicopter. This was the same helicopter that departed Zaluzani airfield on 4 February on a reported CASEVAC flight, but did not return that day. The UNMOs requested an explanation of the helicopter's absence from airfield authorities but no information was provided. Because the helicopter was not checked at the hospital and no details of its flight were provided by the authorities, this flight is an unconfirmed CASEVAC. Therefore, it is in violation of the "No Fly Zone".	Not reported
418	5 February	1108	n/a	UNMOs at Banja Luka Zaluzani airfield reported the departure of an H-42 Gazelle helicopter at 1108 local time, ostensibly for a CASEVAC flight. However, the UNMOs were unable to check the flight prior to departure as it took off directly from a hangar area and could not be checked at the hospital because authorities could not inform UNMOs of the helicopter's arrival time. Thus, it could not be confirmed as a MEDEVAC flight. The helicopter did not return to Zaluzani airfield and authorities had no explanation for the absence. This flight is, therefore, recorded as a violation of the "No Fly Zone".	Not reported
419	6 February	1213	1217	UNMOs at Cazin observed a Type L13 powered glider complete a short flight in the immediate vicinity of the airfield.	Orbiting Slow Low
420	6 February	1237	1243	UNMOs at Cazin observed a Type L13 powered glider complete a second short flight in the immediate vicinity of the airfield.	Orbiting Slow Low

SRL	Date	Start	End	Remarks	Heading, speed, altitude
421	6 February	1136	1140	AWACS reported a track 15 nautical miles north-west of Mostar. The aircraft, probably a helicopter, was tracked heading north-east for 4 minutes before fading from AWACS radar 8 nautical miles north-west of Mostar.	North-east Slow Low
422	6 February	1322	1327	AWACS also reported an aircraft, probably a helicopter, in the Banja Luka area. The aircraft was tracked from a position 10 nautical miles south-west of the town flying north-east. The aircraft was tracked for 13 nautical miles before fading from radar coverage 5 nautical miles north of Banja Luka. UNMOs at both Banja Luka airfields reported no sightings of this aircraft and there were no reported helicopter movements from either of the Banja Luka airfields which could have corresponded with this track.	North-east 150 kts 3,200 ft
423	7 February	0609	0613	AWACS detected a track 3 nautical miles south-west of Banja Luka Zaluzani airfield on the western edge of Banja Luka city, heading south-west. The aircraft was tracked for 4 minutes at a slow speed heading south-west before fading from radar coverage 17 nautical miles south-west of Banja Luka. The track is assessed as probably a helicopter. UNMOs at both Banja Luka airfields reported no sightings of this aircraft and there were no reported helicopter movements from either of the airfields which could have corresponded to this track.	South-west 140 kts Low
424	7 February	1604	1605	AWACS detected a track 20 nautical miles east of Banja Luka in the vicinity of Prnjavor. The aircraft was tracked for only one minute heading west at a slow speed before fading from radar coverage overhead Prnjavor. This track is assessed as probably a helicopter.	West Slow Low

Annex II

Information on flights in the airspace of Bosnia and Herzegovina not authorized by the United Nations Protection Force

(Addition to 2 February 1993)

SRL	Date	Start	End	Remarks	Heading, speed, altitude
425 426 427 428 429	2 February	1900	2200	UNMOs patrolling in the Brcko area reported visual sightings of 5 helicopters. Four of the helicopters were reported flying east to west over Brcko and one was flying west to east also over Brcko. Additional information concerning helicopter types, markings or armaments is not available. A protest will be sent to the appropriate authorities.	4 heading west 1 heading east Speed unknown Altitude unknown